Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph on page 4, lines 3-12, with the following paragraph:

--Russell et al. have described an immunogenic, species-common protein from *S. ~~pneumoniae~~ pneumoniae* designated pneumococcal fimbrial protein A. (J. Clin. Microbiol. 28: 2191-95 (1990)). This 37 kDa protein antigen is also described in U.S. Patent No. 5,422,427, the teachings of which are hereby incorporated in their entirety herein by reference. The 37 kDa protein, which was previously referred to as pneumococcal fimbrial protein A, has more recently been designated pneumococcal surface protein A (PsaA). For the purposes of the present application, references made to PsaA, pneumococcal surface protein A, ~~pnuemococcal~~ pneumococcal ~~fimbral~~ fimbrial protein A, or the 37 kDa antigen, shall all be understood to refer to that certain protein antigen from S. pneumoniae characterized by Russell et al. (1990) and described in U.S. Patent No. 5,422,427--.

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 4, lines 24-25, and 5, lines 1-7 with the following paragraph:

--The *psaA* gene has been cloned from encapsulated strain 6B, and is the subject of ~~pending~~ patent application 08/222,179, now abandoned. This gene is more representative of clinically relevant strains. This gene was initially cloned into pUC18 and subsequently inserted into an expression vector, pQE30 (Quiagen, CA) containing the T5 promoter. However, while ~~*E.coli*~~ *E. coli* host cells transformed with this construct and induced with IPTG did express recombinant PsaA, the recombinant cells were unstable and the yields were low. This instability

may be due to the toxicity of naturally lipidated recombinant proteins to *E. coli* host cells, and makes such expression systems of limited use in preparation of sufficient quantities of recombinant. PsaA for use in immunological compositions--.